

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** farmers markets are important nationwide outlets for agricultural producers providing them with increased marketing opportunities; and

**WHEREAS,** more than 3,800 farmers markets across the country offer consumers farm-fresh, affordable, convenient, and healthy products such as fruits, vegetables, cheeses, herbs, fish, flowers, baked goods, meat, and much more; and

**WHEREAS,** farmers markets serve as integral links among urban, suburban, and rural communities, affording farmers and consumers the opportunity to interact; and

**WHEREAS,** the popularity of farmers markets continues to rise as more and more consumers discover the joys of shopping for unique ingredients sold directly from the farm as well as the pleasure of buying familiar products in their freshest possible state; and

**WHEREAS,** farmers markets support local anti-hunger initiatives through donations of unsold food and food products to programs that feed needy individuals and families; and

**WHEREAS,** our Nation's farmers, while providing for our need, are among the best stewards of our land; and

**WHEREAS,** the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry strongly supports and promotes the development, operation and expansion of farmers markets and other direct-to consumer marketing activities for agricultural producers.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim the week of August 6-12, 2006, as

### LOUISIANA FARMERS MARKET WEEK

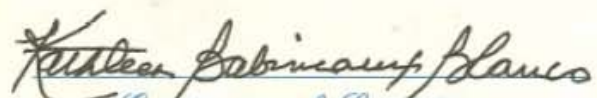
In the State of Louisiana, and encourages the people of Louisiana to celebrate the benefits of farmers markets and the bountiful production of our Nation's farmers with appropriate observances and activities.



*Attest By*  
*The Governor*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Secretary of State*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set*  
*my hand officially and caused to be affixed the*  
*Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the*  
*Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this*  
*the* \_\_\_\_\_ *25<sup>th</sup>* *day of* \_\_\_\_\_ *July* \_\_\_\_\_  
*A.D.,* \_\_\_\_\_ *2006* \_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Governor of Louisiana*